

**Teacher Education Council
Minutes
March 12, 2008**

Members Present:

Carlette Hardin, Lauren Wells, Michele Butts, Jennifer McGuire, Mary Lou Witherspoon, Marcy Maurer, Linda Kay Davis, Sheila Pirkle, Gary Stewart, Tammy Shutt, Michelle Rogers, Paul Nicodemus, Gloria Frank, Barbara Peterson, Jana Hatcher

Members Absent:

David Denton, Charles Pinder, Jennifer Snyder, Sally Armstrong, Sean Impeartice, Wimberly Cottrell, Don Luck

Call to order: 3:32 p. m

Agenda:

I. Minutes from November 14, 2007

Dr. Stewart moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Witherspoon seconded. Motion carried.

II. Introduction of Jana Hatcher

Jana was introduced as the Coordinator of Teacher Certification by Dr. Hardin and welcomed by the Council.

III. Sheila Pirkle – New Standards

Dr. Pirkle discussed the newly approved standards on state web site: <http://state.tn.us/education> . She passed out a handout with directions on accessing the new standards, which become effective Fall 2009. She stressed how important it is for you to familiarize yourself with the new standards and how they differ from the current. The new standards are more structured, more general, and are less fragmented. Dr. Hardin stated how proud we are to have Dr. Pirkle on this committee.

IV. Curriculum Proposals

a. Music-Tabled from last meeting

Dr. Hardin and the Music department decided this proposal did not need to go before the council.

b. K-6 Proposal

This is a revision to this program. When the state team was here, it was brought to our attention this program was out of compliance with the state standards. The revised program will now meet the criterion.

Dr. Stewart moved to approve the new proposal. Dr. Frank seconded. Motion carried.

A. EDUC 3090

This is a new course created to accommodate the revised K-6 program. Dr. Stewart moved to approve. Dr. Shutt seconded. Motion carried.

B. EDUC 4040

This is a reduction in hours for this course. It will now be a three hour course versus a four hour course. This has been requested to accommodate the revised K-6 program. Dr. Stewart moved to approve. Dr. Shutt seconded. Motion carried.

c. Mathematics

MATH 3250 will now replace the one 4000 level Mathematics elective course in the Mathematics Education major. MATH 3250 will be more beneficial to teachers, and meet NCATE standards. Dr. Maurer moved to approve the proposal. Dr. Butts seconded. Motion carried.

d. School Counseling

Due to many requests from students, the Psychology Department will add PSY 4050/5050 as a possible elective to their Psychology, Community and School Counseling programs. Dr. Butts move to approve the proposal. Dr. Frank seconded. Motion carried.

V. *Problem with last student teachers*

Dr. Hardin presented data indicating a trend among student teachers and Praxis II test scores. More and more students are not passing these tests and cannot be licensed. This has become a growing issue for two reasons: allowing students to student teach without taking the Praxis II exams, and NCATE. We had 13 students for Fall 2007 who have not successfully completed their Praxis exams. This is an 82% passing rate which is not acceptable for NCATE purposes. Dr. Butts mentioned the 14 week term versus the 16 week term mandated by TBR could be affecting the performance of the students. Dr. Witherspoon mentioned the 120 hour mandate from TBR could also be affecting the test scores. We may not be requiring enough content courses to prepare them for the tests. Dr. Hardin asked that some thought be given to the matter, and be prepared on April 9, 2008, to discuss and make a recommendation. Dr. Witherspoon stated the test data should be the lowest thing we consider when making this decision. We need to make a decision in time to notify the students if there is a change in policy.

VI. *Security checks-Faculty*

Dr. Hardin stated anybody who goes out to the schools to supervise our students, including faculty must be cleared by TBI/FBI. Each person is responsible for the \$48.00 fee.

VII. Other

1. Unit meeting on Friday morning-Dr. Hardin will resend email.
2. Field experience form-Dr. Hardin will resend email.
3. Middle College this could be an opening for secondary student teachers, we need to be connected to the Middle College. Dr. Hardin will contact Melissa Champion to see if she can attend the April Meeting.

Adjournment: 4:55 p. m.